New pay scales to employees of Union Territory of Chandigarh

@2615. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Chandigarh Union Territory have not so far been granted the pay scales recommended by the IVth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action has been initiated on their representations to this effect and by when are they likely to be accorded their due?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the formation of Union Territory Chandigarh on 1-11-1966, the Chandigarh Administration is following Punjab pattern pay scales. The IVth Pay Commission had excluded Chandigarh Union Territory from its purview. On demand of the Chandigarh Administration employees, it has now been decided to extend the Central pay scales to them. Necessary detailed exercise has already been started in this Ministry for prescribing pay scales to the Chandigarh Administration employees on Central pattern. The pay pattern of Chandigarh Union Territory requires re-structuring as a whole as they are at variance with the Central/other Union Territory pay scales.

Offer of Dubai Government

2616. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dubai Government has invited the Government of India to avail of its cheap and abundant energy to set up energy intensive industries at Jebal Ali free zone with 100 per cent ownership; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government of India on the proposal and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) While no formal invitation has been received by the Government of India from the Government of United Arab Emirates on the subject, a delegation of the Jabel Ali Free Zone Authority visited India in June, 1986 and held discussions with the members of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Purpose of the visit was to apprise potential investors from India of the opportunities and incentives that exist for setting up units in the Jabel Ali Free Zone area. So far, the Government have cleared two proposals for setting up joint ventures/subsidiaries in the aforesaid Zone.

Transfer of Forest Land in Kerala

2617. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Kerala Government for conferment of 'PATTAYAM' (TITLE DEED) in favour of the occupants of forest land in Kerala;

(b) if so, what is the area involved and the number of applicants; and

(c) by what time Government propose to transfer the Title Deed in favour of the inhabitants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Government of Kerala have submitted a proposal for the diversion of 28588.15 ha. of forest land for assignment to occupants in Kerala. The approximate number of holdings is 50,000.

(c) The Kerala High Court has stayed all proceedings for assignment of forest lands in Idukki district. In view

@Previously Unstarred Question 2216 transferred from the 13th August, 1987.